acquisition and rehabilitation package, if a decision is taken to set up a plant at the said site. It is premature at this stage to give the Government's reaction on the subject until site investigations are completed and a decision taken for setting up a Project. However, a project at this site will depend on the ultimate suitability of the site and clearance from Atomic Energy Regulatory Board on safety angle and from Ministry of Environment and Forests from environmental angle.

Contract workers of FCI godowns in Kerala

*357. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contract workers attached to the FCI godowns in Kerala or their Trade Unions have sent a memorandum to Government;

(b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) the details of the action taken to resolve the issues?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demand relates to the abolition of Contract Labour System and introduction of Direct Payment System in the Food Corporation of India depots at West Hill (Kozhikode), Mavelikkara and Chalakkudy.

(c) On the recommendations of the Central Advisory Contract Labour Board, the Ministry of Labour, which is the competent authority under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, has decided to prohibit employment of Contract Labour in the processes/operations/works of handling of foodgrains, including their loading/unloading and stacking in the three godowns and depots of the Food Corporation of India, namely, West Hill (Kozhikode), Mavelikkara and Chalakkudy in Kerala.

Closure of industrial units

†*358. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial units which were closed under the Industrial Disputes Act during the years 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000 without any intimation to Government;

(b) the number of industrial units which have duly informed Government under the said Act; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The Labour Bureau collects information on closures effected under the Industrial Disputes

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.